

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 NAPLES 01236 281613Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /067 W
-----068427 281725Z /46

P 281232Z JUN 78
FM AMCONGEN NAPLES IT
TO AMEMB ROME IT PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 6127
USDOCOSOUTH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NAPLES 1236
USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF
E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, IT

SUBJECT: LOCAL DC COMMENTS ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

1. IN THE COURSE OF CONVERSATIONS WITH CONSULATE DC PROVINCIAL OFFICIALS AND NATIONAL DEPUTIES HAVE EXPRESSED OPINIONS ON CONTENDERS FOR THE PRESIDENCY. A DC PROVINCIAL SECRETARY (DOROTEO) NOTED JUNE 23 THAT THE SOCIALISTS HAVE APPARENTLY TORPEDOED DC SECRETARY ZACCAGNINI'S FLOAT INTO THE PRESIDENCY. THE PARTY OFFICIAL CLAIMED THAT ZACCAGNINI WOULD HAVE BEEN ELECTED ON THE FIRST BALLOT BUT THE PSI WITH ITS "IRRESPONSIBLE POLITICAL TOURISM" HAS TURNED THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION INTO A POLITICAL TEST WHICH COULD UNBALANCE THE

PAGE 02 RUFRSGG3639
GOVERNMENT. THE PARTY OF CRAXI, THE DC PROVINCIAL SECRETARY DECLARED, IS "WORSE THAN BEFORE" AND THE PSI CONTINUES TO BE A "PLAGUE ON ITALY". IN A STUDIED EMOTIONAL TONE, THE DC PARTY REPRESENTATIVE ACCUSED THE SOCIALISTS OF A CLUMSY ATTEMPT TO DISRUPT THE DELICATE POLITICAL BALANCE WHICH THE SOCIALISTS WRONGLY INTERPRET AS HISTORIC COMPROMISE. SOCIALIST ANTICS ONLY FORCE THE DC AND PCI INTO CLOSER COOPERATION, AFFIRMED THE PARTY OFFICIAL.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 NAPLES 01236 281613Z

2. SHOULD ZACCAGNINI BE ELECTED PRESIDENT (AND AN ANDREOTTI-SUPPORTING DC DEPUTY TOLD US THE PARTY IS FULLY BEHIND HIM) ON. FLAMINIO PICCOLI MIGHT ASSUME THE KEY PARTY SECRETARY POSITION. THAT MAY BE FINE FOR THE DOROTEI BUT FOR OUR ANDREOTANI INTERLOCUTOR PICCOLI REPRESENTS THE OLD UNREFORMED DC AND THE PARTY'S IMAGE-REJUVENATED UNDER ZACCAGNINI WOULD SUFFER. FURTHERMORE, RELATIONS WITH THE PCI COULD BE COMPLICATED. THE DOROTEI, AFFIRMED THIS DEPUTY, SACRIFICE

POLICY TO POWER EQUATIONS (PRESUMABLY ANDREOTTIANI DO NOT) AND MIGHT FIND IT DIFFICULT TO BREAK WITH A PCI WITH WHICH THEY COMFORTABLY SHARE POWER.

3. ANOTHER DOROTEO DEPUTY DISCUSSED THE PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST WITH CONOFF JUST BEFORE THE LEONE RESIGNATION. THE DEPUTY DESCRIBED ZAC-CAGNINI AS TIRED AND SICK. HE SHOULD RETIRE. ON THE OTHER HAND

PAGE 03 RUFRSGG3639

ANDREOTTI WOULD MAKE A GOOD PRESIDENT. IN THAT EVENT THE DOROTEO THOUGHT PICCOLI SHOULD BE PRIME MINISTER..

4. COMMENT: CONJECTURE ON THE PRESIDENCY IS CONTINUALLY MODIFIED AS BALLOTING DAY APPROACHES. HERE AS ELSEWHERE THE TALK OF WHICH LAY CANDIDATE CAN GAIN A BROAD CONSENSUS NOW SUPERSEDES CONSIDERATION OF THE DC CANDIDATES AND POLITICAL EFFECT ON PARTY ORGANIZATION. THE ABOVE COMMENTS POINT TO INVOLVEMENT OF FACTIONAL, AND PERSONAL AS WELL AS MORE GENERAL PARTY INTERESTS IN THE SPECULATION OF THE DAY. COLANTONIO.

GDS 84

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978NAPLES01236
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780267-0896
Format: TEL
From: NAPLES
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780612/aaaaajym.tel
Line Count: 82
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b7394f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2179917
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LOCAL DC COMMENTS ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION
TAGS: PINT, PGOV, SOPN, IT
To: ROME
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b7394f7e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014